Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

Vol. 13, No. 32 TORONTO, AUGUST 25, 1948 $2.00 Per Annum

Big PQ Play For French Dubs

E-L, Emp-U And Others Also Offer French-Made Films

Release of French-dubbed versions of Hollywood films and French product in Quebec will be as great during the next season as it was for the present one. The French-Canadian market, concentrated in Quebec, has proved to be quite profitable and almost every distributing company will be represented in it with dubs or originals.

It is expected that MGM will release 12 dubs, 20th Century-Fox seven, Warners 14 dubs, Columbia 18 dubs and one original from France, Eagle-Lion 20 dubs and 10 to 15 from France. RKO, which released 12 dubs last

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Six Houses Open Others In Work

Theatre construction in Canada continued at a rapid pace in spite of the general decline in boxoffice receipts ranging from ten to 25 per cent. Six theatres and four drive-ins opened for business, one application for a building permit was made and

(Continued on Page 8)

Cohen Made WB Internat'l Prexy

Wolfe Cohen, formerly head of the Canadian district for Warners, has been made president of the company's international department. He succeeds the late Max Milder, who died in London three weeks ago. Until now Cohen has been a vice-president

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FPCC Earnings Up This Year

Earnings of Famous Players Canadian Corporation for the first six months of 1948 are higher than those of the first six months of 1947, according to a statement issued by J. J. Fitzgibbons, president, recently. Additionally, earnings in July and August to date is up over the same period last year.

Six theatres have been opened by the company so far this year and eight more are expected to be in operation by the end of the year. Work started recently on theatres in Kelowna, BC, and Moncton. Others are also in work.

Fox Will Release 30 Next Season

Thirty A pictures were announced by Spyros Skouras as the new program for 20th Century-Fox during the recent Toronto sales session. A number will be made in Europe and Canada. The 1948-49 production schedule is the largest in the

(Continued on Page 6)

'Charge It, My Love'

Ronald Reagan and Eleanor Parker have been assigned the starring roles in Warner Brothers' "Charge It, My Love."

GET SET FOR THE GOLF TOURNEY

Work on the fifth annual Canadian motion picture golf championships has been begun in earnest since the return of Tom Daley, tournament manager, and others from their vacations.

Interest throughout Ontario is alive as ever and once again such golfers as Kent Craig of Hamilton, George Georgas of Owen Sound, Roy Miller of St. Catharines, Menzo Craig of Ridgetown and Harry Wilson of Chatham will be entered against each other and the rest of the lads. Non-golfers, among them Joe Paul of Welland, will also make the trip.

John Heggie, Famous Players' booker, suggests a competition among the write-in boys this tournament and it is being considered by the games committee, which is headed by Jack Arthur.

The same number of prizes—and perhaps more—will be available for winners of golf events and lucky draws.

Note the important details now—September 1st, Rouge Hills Golf & Country Club, Rouge Hills, Ontario. Tee-off time is 11 a.m. and the prices are $3 for non-golfers and $4 for golfers. A dinner at which the prizes will be presented will conclude the evening.

Curly Posen heads the ticket committee. Make sure you are one of the several hundred who turn out for the fun each year.

Famous Players Gets Skyway Drive-ins

Control of Skyway Drive-in Theatres Ltd., which was formed in 1946 and now operates three theatres, has been acquired by Famous Players Canadian Corporation. This marks the entry of Canada's largest circuit into the drive-in field, which is comprised of over a dozen such operations. Several are also under construction in Ontario, which contains all but a few of these situations.

The Skyway organization will continue to administer the theatres, with Lloyd Taylor as the new general manager. Taylor resigned as manager of the Gran-

(Continued on Page 3)

New Nasser Film

William Bendix, Dennis O'Keefe and Helen Walker star in James Nasser's production, "Some Rain Must Fall."

Enterprise Studios Signs James Mason

Enterprise Studios scored the Hollywood coup of the year with the signing of James Mason, noted British actor, for his first motion picture production in America.

Mason, most sought after actor by every motion picture company in years, will appear in the Enterprise production, tentatively titled "Wild Calendar," which will be released by MGM. Also starred in Mason's first American vehicle is Barbara Bel Geddes and Robert Ryan. The picture is now before the cameras.

Canadian Actress To Star In New Film

A switch in assignments necessitated by a conflict in starting dates will give Lois Maxwell, Toronto-born actress, the feminine lead in Columbia's "The Crime Doctor's Diary," instead of in "The Lone Wolf and His Lady," for which she was previously announced.

'Easter Parade' Biz Breaks All Records

MGM's Irving Berlin musical, "Easter Parade," in its current Canadian premiere at Loew's, Toronto, has set new opening day and first week records, shattering all marks in the 35-year history of the house. The Technicolor production is being held for an extended run.

SHE'S THE SCREEN'S NEWEST 14 YEAR OLD SINGING SWEETHEART!
LOIS BUTLER — The Sensation of the Year — in "MICKEY"
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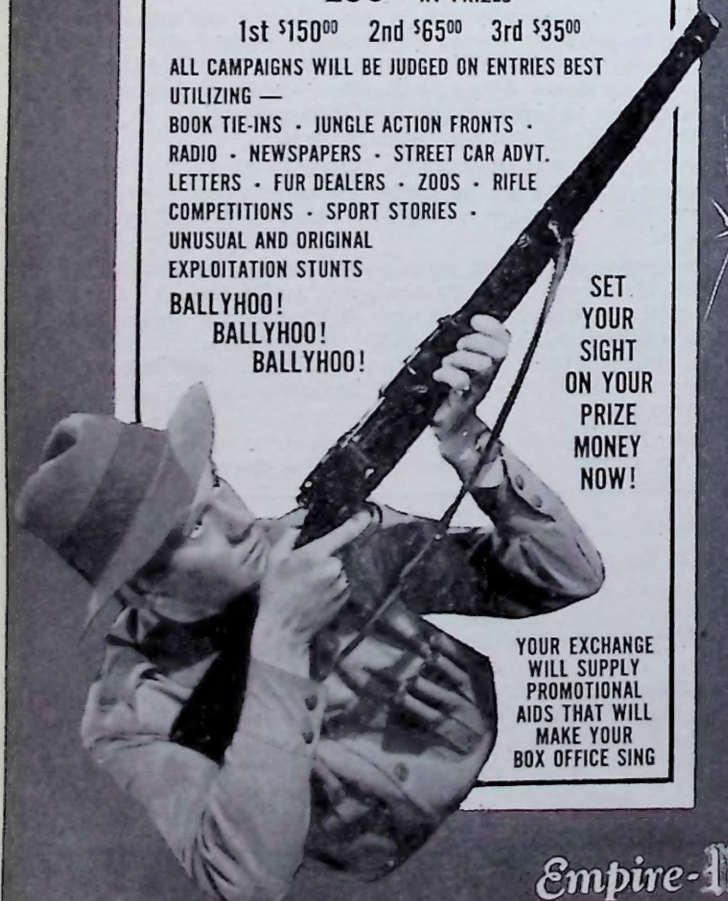

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and

WENDELL COREY
AS THE HUNTER

A UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

Empire-Universal-Films Limited

Skyway Drive-Ins Bought By FPCC

(Continued from Page 1)

ada, Hamilton, to join Skyway and he was succeeded by Paul Turnbull, formerly assistant manager of the Seneca, Niagara Falls. The theatre is now under the 20th Century Theatres' banner.

Skyway Theatres was formed with H. B. Housser of H. B. Housser & Co. as president, and Jack Kent Cooke, Liberty publisher and CKEY owner as vice-president. Also on the board were Roy Thomson, Cooke's partner, T. R. Harrison and Gordon K. Masters of Harrison & Co., R. H. Manley, managing director, of Ohio, and H. W. Long of New York City.

Albert E. Silverwood of Silverwood Dairies Ltd. acquired control last September and by purchasing his stock and that of the other shareholders Famous Players now owns 90 per cent of the company. The price was not given.

Skyway's first venture, the 900-car drive-in at Stoney Creek, near Hamilton, opened in July of 1946. Two 700-car drive-ins were soon added, one each at London and Windsor. Several others are projected.

There are 350 drive-ins in the USA. At the end of the war there was 100 and it is predicted that within a year there will be 500. Canadian drive-ins are limited to Ontario and British Columbia at present but it is expected that they will come to other provinces. Quebec has banned them.

Next Mono Western

"The Sheriff of Medicine Bow" will be the next Monogram Johnny Mack Brown western drama.

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French Dubs Still Big In Quebec Theatres

(Continued from Page 1)

year and one from France, will again provide a schedule, as will Alliance Films, United Artists and International Films.

Paramount will join the field next season by offering 12 dubs.

Empire-Universal, which sold 36 films from France this season, will continue on the same expansive scale during the next one.

France Film, which for years had the Quebec market to itself, is the largest distributor of French films and will likely hold that place.

Astral Films and Alliance Films both distributed Italian films last year and these, like some French pictures, were exhibited nationally.

Among the places where such films were exhibited are the Royal Alexandra, Toronto, and His Majesty's, Montreal, both legitimate houses. The International Cinema, Toronto, and the theatre of the same name in Vancouver operate on a foreign and art film policy.

French and Italian films do strong business in downtown theatres in large American cities but in Canada they are limited to legitimate or art theatres.

A recent article in La Cinematographie Francais, trade paper, indicates that French producers view the American market with the same idea as USA film makers approach foreign markets. Like the English, they now seek representation everywhere and feel that their films have general appeal and good profit potentialities. Says the article:

"The figure of 66 feature French films imported in the United States of America in 1947 appears to us to mark the beginning of the evolution on the English speaking markets.

"We know very well that it is still a question of showings in some specialized Cinemas, but we are certain that if oppositions are not made by the big circuits, this exploitation of European films will become part of the commercial habits in the United States of America and in Great Britain.

"The development of national productions is a characteristic of the years 1940-47. It is particularly clearly defined in the Latin countries, Spain, Italy, Portugal, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico. Great Britain has made enormous progress. Switzerland, Belgium, Egypt, Turkey and Morocco are today producing interesting big films.

"One may therefore think that the moment has arrived when the big-film producing countries no longer pretend to supply alone their inside market, and find an interest in admitting the works produced by other countries, for the enrichment of their commerce and their culture.

"It has been declared, for a long time, in official speeches that the Cinema is an International Art, a universal language, a prodigious means of intellectual exchanges.

"Don't let us limit ourselves any longer to proclaiming these principles, but let us apply them with sincerity.

"It has always appeared just to us to make a place for foreign films which bear the mark of the genius of the nations which have produced them.

"And since films are creations which cost a lot (which is not the case for a painting or a musical work) they shouldn't merely be treated with politeness in the form of diplomatic galas, but a serious exploitation should be facilitated by having them figure in real commercial programs.

"For this, the after-war situations are also favorable, because there is no longer any country where the film industry is not controlled, or at least subject to a central direction, and submitted to rules in accord with the state.

"We think that this is one of the duties of our professional newspapers in each country, to make this fundamental idea, a part of the industrial habits.

"The Exchange of Films throughout the World is the mark of an intelligent liberalism.

"It is also a good commercial method, if we really want the Cinema to attain its full spectacular powers."

Film Weekly

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Cohen Made WB Internat'l Prexy

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of Warner Bros. International Corporation.

Cohen has been in the motion picture industry since 1918, a year after he came to Canada from Belfast, where he was born. He joined the old Allen organization, known then as Famous Players Film Service, and served in various capacities in Toronto, Saint John and Montreal. In 1922 he became a salesman with Regal, now MGM, in Saint John.

When Warners opened nationally in Canada in 1925 Cohen took charge of the Saint John office. Later he was transferred to Winnipeg as branch manager, with supervision over Calgary. In 1936 Cohen became Canadian district manager.

He was appointed vice-president of Vitagraph Ltd. in 1941 and in 1944 was transferred to the international department, with authority over Mexico, South America, Australia, New Zealand and the Far East.

Cohen was very well liked in Canada and was tendered a banquet by the industry prior to his departure.

Stars Assigned For Warner Bros. Film

Janis Paige, Bruce Bennett and James Holden have been named for leading roles in "The House Across the Street," Warner Bros. drama with a newspaper background. Story is by W. R. Burnett, screenplay by Russell Hughes. Richard Bare will direct and Saul Elkins will produce for Warners.

Quick Playoffs

A miniature of Variety Village is to be seen at the Variety clubrooms. Variety's current boy wonder is Doug Rosen, who heads the dynamic revenue committee. Almost without a letup it has swung into the next event, which will be the Blue vs. White inter-team game at the Maple Leaf Gardens in October.

Austin Willis and Larry Cromien, star and producer of "Sins of the Fathers," a Royal Alec three-weeker, were guests of Paul Maynard, the film's distributor, at the Variety Club. And Jack Fitzgibbons brought in Harry and Keith Waterman of the Australian circuit. They are touring the world and are either the second or third set of Waterman brothers to come here. Each year two take a six-month look at the world. They're nice lads.

Best booster of Harry Despardine's Chaudiere Lodge on the French River is Gus Soloway, who reports that one of the guests yanked out a 40-lb. muskie.

You won't see good old Ben Cronk around for a year or so, he says. He and Mrs. Cronk will take a long holiday in California and other places.

Plenty of rumors about important changes in the business.

George Sullivan has resigned as cashier at 20th Century-Fox.

Grat Kiely, Archie Cohen and Babe Coval, confabbed with Haskell Masters and Jules Lapidus at Warners here recently. Haskell is out west right now.

At the 20th-Fox meeting Andy Smith was ticking off the past season's pictures and praising all when Spyros Skouras cracked: "Andy, didn't we have any bad ones?" Another laugh was caused earlier at the trade luncheon. Smith asked the distribs to stand and drink this toast: "May God give exhibitors health and strength to give us better terms." Then John Fitzgibbons asked the exhibs to stand and said: "Will all who want to give better terms keep standing?" All sat down.

Ed Farhood of the Grand, Sudbury, has left to manage the Lake Huron Hotel in Spanish, Ontario. Ed's grandfather, George, opened the first movie house in Montreal, the Circle, then switched to the legit field. Ed's dad took over when the pioneer passed on. Good luck, Ed.

To correct our earlier report: Toronto was first and Montreal second in the recently-concluded Depinet RKO drive.

Oscar Hanson doesn't worry about the watermelon ban. He's growing his own.

Ben Meyers, one of Dundas Square's favorite fellows, was in from Peterborough, where he manages the Imperial branch. He got a warm welcome and it took him a couple of hours to travel a few hundred yards.

Gib Martin, manager of the Trent, Trenton, just entered his 38th year in show business.

Lou Consky of Haliburton had quite a time with a skunk under the verandah. They tell me he wished he had hidden under the verandah from the skunk, instead of vice-versa.

Vaudeville is being used in the Niagara Falls drive-in two nights each week and dancing during four for those who want to come before movie time.

Have any of you, by some chance, a copy you don't want of my 1939 booklet, "A Saint in Street Clothes"? It's about the life and death of the late Willie Frankel, the fighting newsboy, and I have been asked for a copy.

The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario and Arch Jolley deserve the thanks of exhibitors for their work in getting a commission on tax collection and the revision of the form.

Speaking of Jolleys, I wish to thank Mel of Oshawa for his kind pre-vacation words.

Les Vicary of Orillia has undergone an operation and Charlie Stephenson of 20th Century's head office is pinch-hitting for him.

That was a terrific thing Ken Johnston, manager of the Guelph Odeon, did when he jumped into the river and rescued two boys, one of them his nephew. Kenny hadn't been in the water for years and was never much of a merman at best but he hopped right in. The Guelph Review, in a front page story, demanded public recognition for Ken.

In letters to newspapers readers beefed at ushers refusing to seat patrons in one of a pair of vacant seats and the absence of drinking fountains.

Winnipeg exhibs have a new-old worry. The parks board is showing free movies.

According to Bob Thomas, Canadian International has lined up Paul Henreid and Preston Foster for films at its Montreal studios. Henreid was in Montreal on August 14th for CI.

It was celebrity night at the Tivoli sneak preview of "A Foreign Affair," Paramount's standout comedy about USA personnel in post-war Germany. Some of the town's top names took it in and, along with other members of the audience, thought the film about the best comedy in years. Prolonged applause marked the conclusion and those who provided it filled in preview cards with similar sentiment. Win Barron and Russ Simpson were happy about it all, as was Bob Nelson, in charge while Len Bishop is on vacation.

E. S. (Torchy) Coatsworth has resigned from the National Film Board's Toronto office, which he headed, and will be working on exploitation of "Hamlet" for Eagle-Lion Films. He's a bright one, that Torchy, and he did much to boost the CCO series and other NFB product with his energy and ideas.

Jimmy Cameron back at FPCC home office after a month in Winnipeg working on the refurbished Gaiety Theatre, now a first run, and vociferous about the hospitality of the trade folks there. The annual picnic was an outstanding event, he says, and he brought regards from Ken Wells, Harold Bishop and others. Harold is now in California holidaying. And congrats to the Frank Davises, who have a daughter.

Mark Berman, who used to be with UA in Montreal, is now booker in the Toronto office of SRO.

George Jessel served as toastmaster for the Great Heart Award banquet to Charlie Skouras of Variety Tent 25, Los Angeles, at which 900 were present from various parts of the USA. It is reminiscent of our Order of Human Being, First Class, which was awarded to Conn Smythe some months ago.

Jock Lawrence, Rank's USA praiser, who was with Mountbatten, just got an OBE.

Neil Agnew, well known in Canada, quits SRO on September 1st.

No successor to Pete Myers at Eagle-Lion yet, says boss man Frank Fisher.

Near the film district, on Dundas near Yonge, is the Mercury Athletic Club, already the most popular tavern and dining place in town among the sport and radio folk. Partners in it are Sammy Luftspring, former Canadian welterweight champion; Joe Krol, famed footballer; and Harry Eckler, the top softball first baseman. It was formerly the Flyers' Club.

"As long as Canadians seem determined to make movies, it's a pity they don't try something worthwhile rather than cheap quickies which do nothing to establish the Canadian industry on a firm footing," wrote Jack Hirshberg, Hollywood columnist of the Montreal Standard. "But Canada has produced some fine documentaries."

A Friend of mine recently spent six hours in a dentist's chair and fainted into a flowerbed while walking home. Police picked him up but wouldn't believe his story because it was Sunday so they jugged him. One of the lads at the station got a whiff of ether and suggested that there might be something in his story. They drove him home in a police car and one of the officers rang the bell and asked for him. His wife said he was at the dentist so they released him. It shows what can happen to a man who is minding his own business.

Sam Maltin, the sports writer, once took his daughter, Maxine, who was then about three years old, on an assignment with him. He had to cover an inter-city football game and Maxine, who got used to football benches and press boxes at home, became the sweetheart and mascot of the Montreal team when she travelled with it on the train.

After they arrived every player fought for Maxine's company for strolls through the home team's city. The secret of her popularity, poppa discovered, was that the players found it easy to get acquainted with pretty girls, who stopped to jolly the blonde and beautiful tot.

In Canada, Too!

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LOEW'S, TORONTO

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IRVING BERLIN'S

"EASTER PARADE"

Color by TECHNICOLOR

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

"The Proudest Name In Motion Pictures"

In Canada, Too!

20th-Fox To Offer 30 For '49

Feature Program Lists 30 Pictures To Be Produced in Hollywood, Canada and Other Lands

company's history and most of it will be completed by the end of August.

The 30 films, completed or in various stages of preparation, are:

Completed

"The Walls of Jericho," based on the dramatic best-seller by Paul Wellman, and starring Cornel Wilde, Linda Darnell, Anne Baxter and Kirk Douglas. Screenplay written and produced by Lamar Trotti. Directed by John M. Stahl.

"That Lady In Ermine," a satiric musical in Technicolor, starring Betty Grable and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Produced and directed by Ernest Lubitsch.

"Escape," from the suspenseful drama by John Galsworthy, starring Rex Harrison and Peggy Cummins. Produced by William Perlberg and directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz.

(Continued from Page 1)

"Forever Amber," in Technicolor, from the Kathleen Winsor best-seller, starring Linda Darnell, Cornel Wilde, Richard Greene and George Sanders. Produced by William Perlberg and directed by Otto Preminger. This will be placed in general release for the first time.

"The Reign of Terror," a stirring drama in the filmed-from-life series, starring Victor Mature and Richard Conte. Based on the Henry Helseth novel. Produced by Sol C. Siegel and directed by Robert Siodmak.

Being Edited

"The Luck of the Irish," based on the novel "There Was a Little Man," by Guy and Constance Jones. A gay comedy-romance starring Tyrone Power and Anne Baxter. Produced by Fred Kohlmer and directed by Henry Koster.

"Apartment for Peggy," in Technicolor, based on a Faith Baldwin story, starring Jeanne Crain, William Holden and Edmund Gwenn. Produced by William Perlberg and directed by George Seaton, the team which produced the memorable "Miracle on 34th Street."

"When My Baby Smiles At Me," in Technicolor, based on the famous Broadway success, "Burlesque," and starring Betty Grable and Dan Dailey. Produced by George Jessel and directed by Walter Lang.

"Unfaithfully Yours," a satirical comedy, written, produced and directed by Preston Sturges. Starring Rex Harrison, Linda Darnell, Rudy Vallee and Barbara Lawrence.

"That Wonderful Urge" (tentative title), a romantic comedy starring Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney. Produced in Sun Valley, Idaho, and Hollywood by Fred Kohlmer and directed by Robert Sinclair.

"Road House," an action-drama starring Cornel Wilde, Ida Lupino, Celeste Holm and Richard Widmark. Screenplay written and produced by Edward Chodorov, directed by Jean Negulesco.

"Yellow Sky," a dramatic story of the west, starring Gregory Peck, Anne Baxter and Richard Widmark based on an original story by W. R. Burnett. Screenplay written and produced by Lamar Trotti, directed by William A. Wellman.

ARTHUR SILVERSTONE
Canadian general manager for 20th Century-Fox Films.

"The Snake Pit"

"The Snake Pit," a Darryl F. Zanuck presentation, starring Olivia De Havilland and also starring Mark Stevens and Leo Genn. Based on the sensational best-selling novel by Mary Jane Ward. Produced by Anatole Litvak and Robert Bassler. Directed by Anatole Litvak.

In Work

"The Fan," based on the famous Oscar Wilde play "Lady Windermere's Fan," with Jeanne Crain, Madeleine Carroll, George Sanders, and Richard Greene. Produced and directed by Otto Preminger.

Will James' "Sand," an outdoor romance in Technicolor, with Mark Stevens, Coleen Gray and Rory Calhoun. Produced by Robert Bressler and directed by Louis King.

"Chicken Every Sunday," from the best-seller by Rosemary Taylor, with Dan Dailey, Celeste Holm, Alan Young and Colleen Townsend. Produced by William Perlberg and directed by George Seaton of "Miracle on 34th Street" fame.

"Three Wives," a modern comedy-drama starring Linda Darnell, Jeanne Crain and Ann Sothern. Produced by Sol C. Siegel and directed by Joseph L. Mankiewicz.

"The Prince of Foxes," from the best-selling historical novel by Samuel Shellabarger. Currently in production in Rome with Tyrone Power and Wanda Hendrix heading the cast. Being produced by Sol C. Siegel and directed by Henry King.

"The Affairs of Adelaide," based on the best-seller, "Britania Mews," by Margery Sharp, starring Maureen O'Hara and Dana Andrews. Under production in England by William Perlberg and directed by Jean Negulesco.

Scheduled

"Mr. Belvedere Goes to College," further hilarious adventures of the baby-sitter of "Sitting Pretty," with Clifton Webb heading an all-star cast. Produced by Samuel G. Engel, who made "Sitting Pretty."

"Mother Is a Freshman," a romantic comedy produced by Walter Morosco.

In Preparation

"Come To the Stable," an original story by Clare Boothe Luce, based upon a true-to-life story of two Catholic nuns, with an all-star cast. To be produced by Samuel G. Engel. "I Was a Male War Bride," with Cary Grant as star and a major cast, to be produced in Europe by Sol C. Siegel and directed by Howard Hawks. "Royal Canadian Mounted Police," to be produced in Canada with a top cast. "Call Me Mister," based on the musical stage success, to be produced by George Jessel. "Down To the Sea in Ships," to be produced by Louis D. Lighton and directed by Henry Hathaway. "The Beautiful Blonde From Bashful Bend," starring Betty Grable. A comedy written, produced and directed by Preston Sturges. "Sweet Sue," in Technicolor, starring June Haver. "Beyond Five Fathoms," to be directed by Academy Award winner Elia Kazan in Florida. Screenplay by Richard Murphy. "Cloak of Romance," an original story by Ketti Frings, starring Richard Widmark. Produced and directed by Otto Preminger.

Important Tie-ups For Newest MoT

A very effective tie-up with the Ontario Hospital Association, organization sponsoring the Blue Cross Plan for hospital care, has been arranged by Sam Glasier, 20th Century-Fox' Canadian publicity head, for his company's March of Time release, "The Case of Mrs. Conrad." Film pictures the "behind the scenes" goings-on in a typical modern hospital and covers the hospital services from start to finish.

A special Blue Cross letter plugging the picture is being mailed to all Ontario hospitals; to 107 industrial publications whose firms are affiliated with the Blue Cross; and to the Blue Cross Plans and Commission. A display ad, giving about 75 per cent of the space to the picture will appear in 38 Ontario dailies and 55 weeklies at the same time as the local theatre ad. Displays and posters will be distributed to all theatres booking the short, as well as all hospitals, all large firms enrolled in the Blue Cross and the provincial and civic Department of Health.

Leading news commentators will feature the film on their broadcast, while the hospitals, which have been requested to help publicize the film, will enlist the support of local doctors, clergy, business leaders, civic officials and radio stations. The Blue Cross representative will be informed of bookings in his area and will co-operate with theatres to lend every possible assistance.

John Lund Added To 'Mask For Lucretia'

John Lund, as a result of his outstanding portrayal and public acclaim in "A Foreign Affair" has been cast as Alphonso D'Este, Duke of Ferrara, in Paramount's melodramatic story of the Renaissance, "A Mask For Lucretia," in which he will star with Paulette Goddard and Macdonald Carey.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 13, No. 32 REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK $2.00 Per Annum

Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein

with Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Lon Chaney, Bela Lugosi, Lenore Aubert, Glenn Strange.

Empire-Universal 92 Mins.

GENERAL AUDIENCE IS IN FOR SOME ZANY, EERIE ESCAPADES THAT WILL EMIT A SERIES OF CHUCKLES, HOWLS AND O-O-OHS; BOXOFFICE SHOULD DO WELL.

There is an intermingling of amusing, ridiculous situations when Abbott and Costello meet up with Lugosi, Chaney and Strange.

A desperate phone call from Chaney, in London, to Abbott and Costello, baggage clerks, not to deliver two crates containing the remains of Bela Lugosi (Dracula) and Glenn Strange (Frankenstein Monster) to Frank Ferguson's (McDougal) House of Horrors.

Ferguson demands safe delivery. Once in the House of Horrors, Costello becomes involved in a series of incidents with Lugosi and Strange. Complains they are alive but Abbott disbelieves. Crates' contents disappear when the owner arrives and has Abbott and Costello arrested. Lugosi takes the Monster to Lenore Aubert's (Sandra Mornay) laboratory. Charles Bradstreet (Dr. Stevens), her assistant, is unaware of her research. Miss Aubert, who has been courting Costello, tells Lugosi all is ready for the operation of substituting Costello's brain for that of the Monster's.

Jane Randolph (Joan Raymond), an insurance agent, in order to trace the insured crates, has the boys released from jail. Chaney meets up with the boys, warns them Dracula and the Monster are in the Aubert house. As they go in search, Miss Aubert finds out that Miss Randolph is an investigator and refuses to go through with her plans.

Under Lugosi's spell she is forced to continue. Chaney transforms into the Wolfman creating great confusion. Lugosi has Costello in his power. Lugosi and Miss Aubert are set to perform the operation on Costello when Abbott and Chaney arrive. They rescue him and the three horrors all meet their doom.

CAST: Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Lon Chaney, Bela Lugosi, Glenn Strange, Lenore Aubert, Jane Randolph, Frank Ferguson, Charles Bradstreet.

CREDITS: Producer, Robert Arthur; Director, Charles T. Barton; Original Screenplay, Robert Lees, Frederic I. Rinaldo, John Grant; Director of Photography, Charles Van Enger.

DIRECTION, Very Good.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

Key Largo

with Humphrey Bogart, Edward G. Robinson, Lauren Bacall, Lionel Barrymore, Claire Trevor.

Warners 101 Mins.

STAR-STUDDED CAST SHOULD MAKE THE FANS QUEUE UP FOR "KEY LARGO," A DIFFERENT KIND OF GANGSTER MELODRAMA. GREAT BOXOFFICE.

"Key Largo" is a gangster picture with a message. Alone, depressed and footloose, ex-Major Bogart decides to visit Lionel Barrymore and Lauren Bacalla, father and widow of a buddy who served with him in Italy.

Though it's the off-season for vacationists, there are five men and a woman who have rented Barrymore's Largo Hotel for one week. Bogart recognizes Edward G. Robinson, leader of the group, as a notorious racketeer who has sneaked back to the States after having been deported several years before. Another who recognizes the mobster is deputy John Rodney while searching for two Indians who broke jail. The cop is beaten to unconsciousness by Robinson's henchman.

To prevent the police from being notified, Robinson orders Barrymore, Bacall and Bogart held prisoner until a fellow gangster arrives to pick up a bagful of counterfeit money.

Bogart is angered when Robinson insults aged, invalided Barrymore. Tempers get hotter when the imprisoned trio sneer at Robinson for beating the deputy as he regains consciousness. The mobster challenges Bogart to a pistol duel. He rejects the offer. Barrymore and Bacall are chagrined at Bogart's defection. The deputy, conscious, challenges Robinson. Both fire at point blank range. Robinson kills the deputy whose gun was empty.

Marc Lawrence arrives at Largo, buys Robinson's phoney money. Robinson orders his men to get ready to leave, only to discover that the craft he had hired is gone. Bogart, who accidentally revealed his knowledge of boats, is forced to navigate Barrymore's boat to Cuba.

Robinson ditches Claire Trevor, his quondam mistress and night club queen. Her dipsomania does not appeal to him. Vengeful Trevor sneaks Robinson's pistol to Bogart who uses it to excellent advantage aboard the boat.

CAST: Humphrey Bogart, Edward G. Robinson, Lauren Bacall, Lionel Barrymore, Claire Trevor, Thomas Gomez.

CREDITS: Produced by Jerry Wald; Directed by John Huston, Screenplay by Richard Brooks and John Huston; Based on the play by Maxwell Anderson; Photography by Karl Freund, ASC.

DIRECTION, Best.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Tops.

So Evil My Love

with Ray Milland, Ann Todd, Geraldine Fitzgerald

Paramount 109 Mins.

HAS NAMES, FINE PERFORMANCES BUT WILL NEED SLICK SELLING TO GO OVER; WILL NOT DISAPPOINT TICKET BUYERS.

While this British made film has important names, there is also apparent as it gets under way that it will require a good deal of intensive selling.

Milland is a scoundrel-artist bound East for Liverpool from the West Indies, aboard a sailing ship on which Miss Todd, widow of a missionary, is also a passenger. He is ill. She nurses him. Shortly after she arrives at her London home Milland comes calling. He soon rouses the dormant woman in her and they develop an affair. Milland also carried on with a couple of others.

Broke, he feigns defeat in his artistic pursuit and Miss Todd goes to Geraldine Fitzgerald, wife of an MP, who gives her money and asks her to destroy a number of potentially dangerous letters she had sent to Miss Todd in Jamaica. Milland learns of the letters and soon convinces Miss Todd she should go to live with Miss Fitzgerald as a companion. Miss Fitzgerald's husband, Raymond Huntley, believes she is incapable of bearing children and is desirous of maintaining the family name. He has a bad heart.

Milland convinces Miss Todd she should try and blackmail Huntley. Arrangements are made. Miss Todd has Huntley over the barrel. He however gets a dossier on Milland's criminal career which includes murder. Miss Todd at this point angers Huntley into a heart attack and in the few moments of excitement that follow she conceives the perfect murder which results in the arrest of Miss Fitzgerald. Milland returns from Paris and it is evident he really loves Miss Todd. But fate leads her to find a locket she had given him on another woman, Moira Lester. Enraged at the deception she meets Milland in a cab near Westminster and while he declares his love she slips a knife into his ribs. She surrenders to the police and so saves Miss Fitzgerald from the noose.

CAST: Ray Milland, Ann Todd, Geraldine Fitzgerald, Leo G. Carroll, Raymond Huntley, Martha Hunt.

CREDITS: Producer, Hal Wallis; Director, Lewis Allen; Screenplay, Leonard Spigelgass, Ronald Millar, Based on a novel by Joseph Shearing; Photography, Max Greene.

DIRECTION, Suitable.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

The Street With No Name

with Mark Stevens, Richard Widmark, Lloyd Nolan, Barbara Lawrence.

20th-Fox 91 Mins.

WITH TENSION AT A PEAK CONSTANTLY, THIS DOCUMENTARY JOB STANDS TO KEEP AUDIENCES ON THE EDGES OF THEIR SEATS; SOCK DRAMATIC FARE VERY WELL HANDLED.

In a tense, polished, straightforward manner, this documentary job easily equals or surpasses the recent collection of that type of production offered by this company. Played straight and pointedly, the story quality is purveyed with mounting tension and gripping suspense of a calibre to cause the viewer to sit on the edge of his seat as he expectantly observes the unfolding of an FBI investigation into a couple of murders.

Scenario at the outset calls attention to the fact that the juvenile delinquents of yesterday are the gangsters of today and the criminal street with no name runs the breadth of the country. As this case is related, the FBI goes into action after a Federal statute has been violated and Mark Stevens is assigned to get the lowdown on a pair of murders done with a Luger.

He goes to "Centre City" with an aide and the pair set about their task of getting evidence, building a case. It is ticklish business for Stevens who must join Widmark's mob and pretend to go off on a caper, meanwhile keeping FBI Inspector Lloyd Nolan informed of what's up.

There is also a threat of lethal reprisal for Stevens by Widmark and it is revealed there is police corruption afoot to such an extent that Widmark, working through a local official, can use the FBI's facilities to investigate his henchmen, even to the extent of checking Washington files and utilizing fingerprint lifting technique.

Piece comes to a violent boil when Widmark has Stevens in a warehouse. He knows what Steven's job is and plans to kill him but the plan misses fire for Nolan and the local law comes raiding and Widmark gets his.

Exploitable via its title, the film has an excellent boxoffice potential. It is quality fare also. It stands to go places.

CAST: Mark Stevens, Richard Widmark, Lloyd Nolan, Barbara Lawrence, Ed Begley, Donald Buka, Joseph Pevney.

CREDITS: Producer, Samuel G. Engel, Director, William Keighley; Original Screenplay, Harry Kleiner; Photography, Joe McDonald.

DIRECTION, Fine.
PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

Six Houses Open Others In Work

(Continued from Page 1)

construction was started or speeded up on six others. In addition, extensive alterations got under way on three more houses and two reopened after refurbishing.

National Theatre Services' 600-seat Roxy Theatre in Owen Sound, Ontario, the fourth there, made its debut recently. At Aylmer, Ontario, Theatre Holding Corporation premiered its $80,000 Strand, the second situation for that community, the other being the same company's 296-seat Capitol. Pacific Mills unveiled its 500-seat Crown Theatre in Ocean Falls, BC, a company-owned town. The three other regular-type showplaces that opened for business recently were new theatres on sites of ones completely destroyed by fire. They are the 350-seat $22,000 Gaiety, owned by M. Prycz, in Leduc, Alberta; J. Purnell and Sons' 339-seat Palace in Coleman, Alberta; and John Carlson and Ralph Pomeroy's 400-seat Carlsonia in Fort St. John, BC.

Of the four drive-ins that commenced operations three are owned by H. Ochs — the 500-car open-air theatre in Oshawa, the 1,000-car one in Ottawa and the third in Peterborough, all in Ontario—and the fourth is Auto-Sky Drive-in Theatre Company's 600-car situation in Ottawa.

An application was made for theatre building permit by B. Halyk in Meadow Lake, Saskatchewan. S. Karby's 300-seat Strand is the only other theatre there.

Walls have been completed for France-Film Company's $250,000 Montreal theatre and work on the interior has started. The foundation is going in for Odeon's 660-seat $75,000 project in St. Thomas, Ontario, and H. J. Sutherland's 550-seat structure in Goderich, Ontario, is nearing completion. The Rouville Amusement Company's $35,000 enterprise in St. Cesaire, Quebec, is scheduled for a late September opening, while work will recommence about the same time on Theatre Amusement Company's Midland, Ontario, house on which work was held up for some time after completion of the exterior. Work has started on A. B. Stirling and K. R. Corkum's 400-seat $40,000 enterprise in Port Moody, BC, the first one there.

Extensive alterations, ranging in cost up to $50,000, are under way on Ottawa Valley Amusement's 748-seat O'Brien Theatre in Pembroke, Ontario; Famous Players' 995-seat Imperial in Sarnia, Ontario; and Phillipe Bellanger's Gayety Theatre in Montreal. The last-named situation, which has been stripped down to the bare walls, operated until its recent closing as a burlesque house. Two Montreal theatres, FPCC's 2,184-seat Princess and Confederation Amusement's 715-seat Maisonneuve have reopened after remodelling work.

ECHOES and REFLECTIONS

Movies for Grown-ups

(From the Brantford, Ontario, Expositor)

The discovery that "older people" (meaning those over 30) are attending moving picture theatres much less frequently than the younger fry seems to have caused consternation in Hollywood. And, judging by a survey, the movie moguls have reason to be worried a bit. It shows that 80 per cent of the average movie audience is under the age of 30. Any such lack of age-balance is bad for art and worse for business, and the world of talkiedom has as much concern for the one as for the other — almost.

A forum considerately conducted by The Associated Press and reported in an article on this page today, quotes a star as lustrous as Van Johnson as saying he thinks the trouble is a combination of popcorn and double features. The old folk (again meaning those over 30, presumably) seem to find two pictures hard on the eyes and even harder on the posterior. As for the popcorn and similar noisesome and smelly confections, even a well-mannered bobby-soxer might experience a slight feeling of revulsion over that. Mastication does not go well with moving pictures, unless, of course, one happens to be chomping away on some of the stuff oneself. Let it be interjected, again, that the fodder in question is doubtless wholesome and highly sanitary, but there should be a place for eating it other than in some unoffending theatregoer's ear.

If, however, the Hollywood appraisers get wise to this factor and adjust the matter (a word from them would remove a lot of things from the foyers, one guesses!) the situation should improve.

As for the double features, one hazards an opinion that it is not the number but the quality of the pictures that really attracts — or repels. Other actors quoted — Joseph Cotten, Charles Bickford, Ronald Regan, Brian Donlevy and Clark Gable — are among those who think the movies should be better, have more finesse, and, as Mr. Regan suggested, be directed in far greater degree to adult intelligence.

Now it may be suggested that it is as rash, if not as impertinent, for a newspaper editor to tell Hollywood how to run its business as it would be for a film producer to tell the Fourth Estate how to turn out newspapers. As a matter of fact the latter advice has been given before now. But to halt futile wrangling along that line, it is pointed out that the criticism comes from within the ranks of moviedom, from some of the stars. And could anyone suggest a more expert set of critics?

Robert Young Cast

Robert Young has been signed for the starring male lead opposite June Lockhart in "The World and Little Willie," Cavalier Productions romantic drama which will be released by Eagle Lion (Hollywood) Films. It will be the new company's initial producing venture.

Youngster Signed By Samuel Goldwyn

Pamela Beals, nine-year-old English actress whose film career was financed by thousands of the ex GI's she entertained during the war, has been signed for a role in Samuel Goldwyn's "Enchantment." In this RKO release she will appear with David Niven, Teresa Wright, Evelyn Keyes and Farley Granger.

Para Lifts Option

Paramount has taken up its option on Nancy Olson, 20-year-old screen newcomer recently signed after she appeared in a UCLA campus presentation of "The Play's the Thing."

WOLFE COHEN
Newly-appointed president of Warner Bros. Pictures International Corporation, who was formerly a vice-president.

Awards Announced At Locarno Festival

Three of the top six awards at the Annual International Film Festival at Locarno, Switzerland, were awarded to Hollywood. John Ford was named as the best director of the year for his work on RKO's "Fort Apache." Twentieth Century-Fox' "Miracle on 34th Street" captured the honors for best screen adaptation and best supporting actor was Richard Widmark, Fox contract player.

Best film of the year, according to Festival judges, was the Italian picture: "Berlin: Year Zero," produced by Rossellini. France's Maria Casarea was the top supporting actress and best actress of the year was Hildegard Neff for her work in the German production, "Film Without Title."

SRO Long-Term Pact For Cathy O'Donnell

David O. Selznick has signed Cathy O'Donnell, the beautiful Southern girl from Birmingham, Alabama, who made her motion picture debut in "The Best Years of Our Lives," to a long-term contract, it was announced at the Selznick Studio.

Miss O'Donnell has already been cast in a production and she will make her debut as a Selznick star in one of the leading roles in "The Greatest Show on Earth," which will be photographed in Technicolor with an all-star cast of players.

"The Greatest Show on Earth" will go into production this fall utilizing and featuring the entire resources of Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey, Inc., together with an all-star cast from among the personalities under contract to David O. Selznick.

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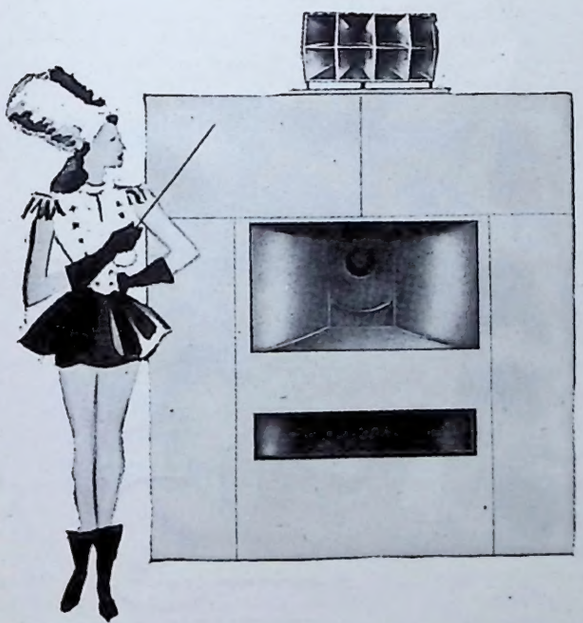

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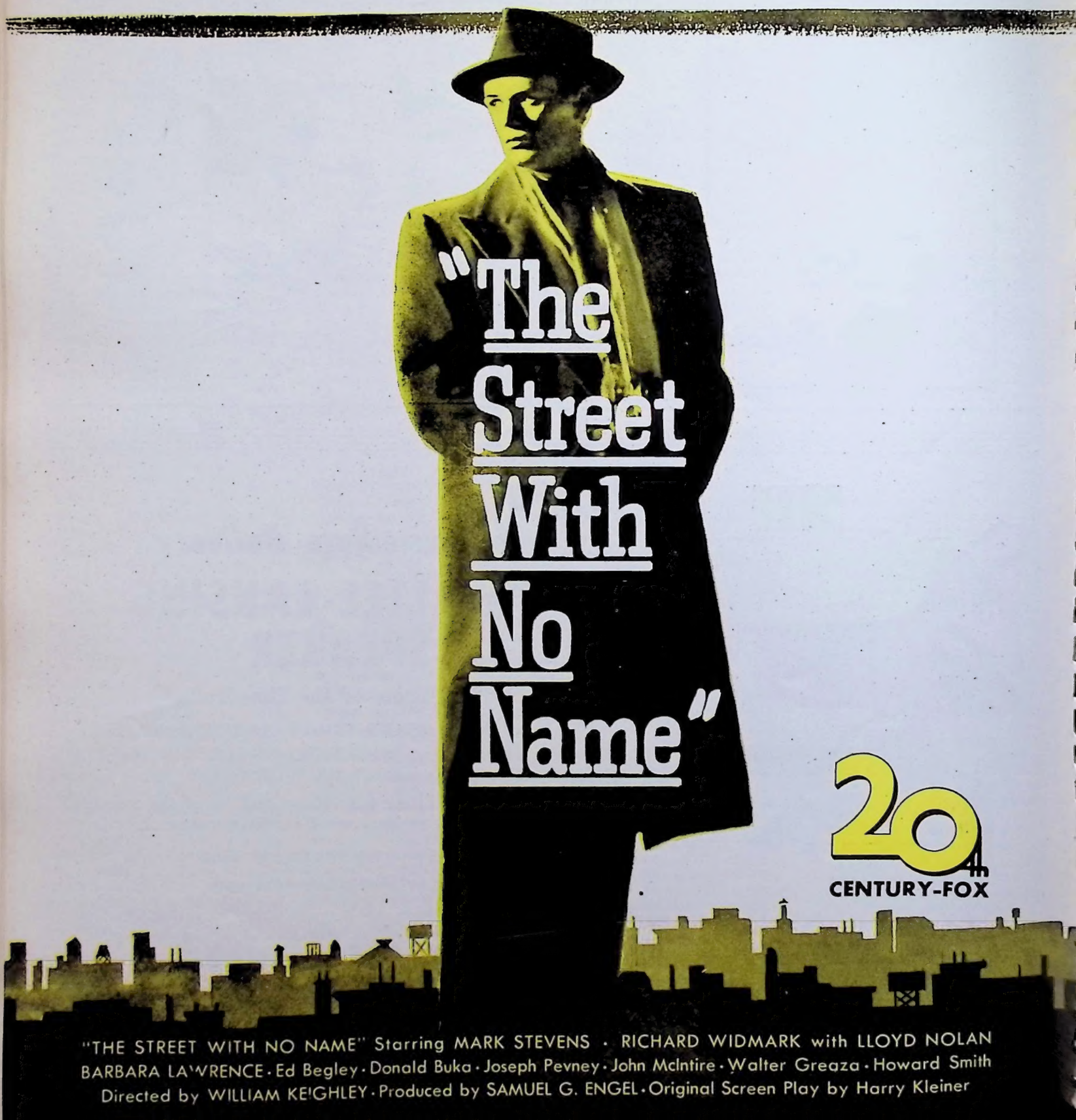

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